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SPRING 2010 ISSUE 12 WWW.SFBG.COM

6



CHIC PEEPS

10



HIT REFRESH

12



FAMILY AFFAIR

14



FIRST BLUSH

16



TABLA, TERRIFIC

18



HOP TO IT

## PLAYING THE DOZENS

Whatever spells budding glamour and spring party debauchery to you, we'll knock your vernal equinox socks off with our 12th issue of Scene. Fresh looks, classic hangs, newly hatched watering holes, and sprightly nightlife highlights all glimpse the dazzling sun herein. Shed those wintry blues and come into the light. **(Marke B.)**

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

MIRISSA NEFF

EDITOR

MARKE B.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

SPENCER HANSEN

KEENEY AND LAW

RORY MCNAMARA

MATTHEW REAMER

CONTRIBUTORS

CAITLIN DONOHUE

LILAN KANE

CREATIVE ASSISTANT

BEN HOPFER



ON THE COVER  
NON STOP BHANGRA

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SEE PAGE 16



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# FALL FASHION SHOWS

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**  
KEENEY AND LAW

**CONCEPT:**  
MIRISSA NEFF

**LOCATION SHOTS:**  
BEN HOPFER

It's all in the Bay, bay-bee, but when it comes to looking good — especially in spring, when the raincoats slide off and the skin starts to show — every neighborhood shows its individual rainbow of colors and shades. We asked four fresh clothiers — Brooklyn Circus, Bianca Starr, Sui Generis, and San Franpsycho, each representing different, vibrant sections of the city — to clue us into their fashion visions for the season.

## THE MISSION: BIANCA STARR



### BIANCA KAPLAN OF BIANCA STARR:

This is a retro chola look, bringing back what I remember from the Mission in the 1980s: beautiful women who brought breezy glamour to the neighborhood. The polka-dot dress, red leather belt, and Chanel bag are vintage, the shoes are more contemporary, and the gold feather hairpiece is by Venus Superstar, whose line we carry. The Mission can be dominated by the grungy

hipster look, but if you look closely, there's sophistication. At Bianca Starr, I want to boost that, with an edge. It's a dream closet where I help women combine the vintage with the contemporary, and encourage them to dress up. We don't sell pants, just dresses.

Bianca Starr, 3552 20th St., SF.  
(415) 341-1020. [www.biancastarr.com](http://www.biancastarr.com).  
Hair and makeup by Pretty Pretty Collective



# THE FILLMORE: BROOKLYN CIRCUS



**CALVIN LEUNG OF BROOKLYN CIRCUS:** The Fillmore has a rich jazz history, and our aesthetic has a very gentlemen's club kind of feel — like Ralph Lauren crossed with a street sensibility. It fit in with the barbershops and tailor shops that used to be in the district, and we're really inspired by the music. This is a good example of our spring look, because our fame came from taking traditionally dull pieces and refreshing the silhouette and color. We're all about

the irony. In this outfit the denim isn't in the jacket, it's in the shirt, and the shawl-collared sweater is purple. All those items are by Brooklyn Circus. And I'm wearing boots in spring, but they're scuffed up, combat-style Sebagos. Along with the paperboy hat, this outfit shows how we like to mess with textures and clash them together.

Brooklyn Circus, 1521 Fillmore, SF  
(415) 359-1999. [www.thebkcircus.com](http://www.thebkcircus.com)

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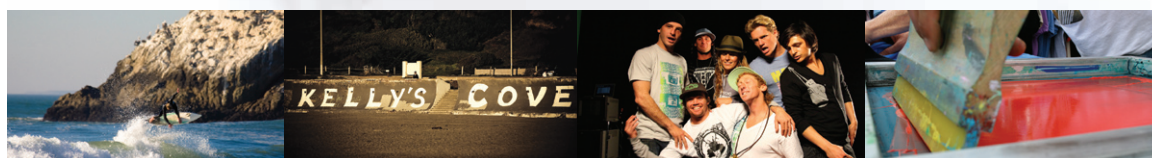
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**THE SUNSET:  
SAN  
FRANPSYCHO**



**CHRISTIAN ROUTZEN AND  
ANDY OLIVE OF SAN FRANPSYCHO:**

This look describes the fun and anticipation people start to feel as spring emerges. We brought together the boombox print with a gold foil to really make the design pop in a classy, but not over-blinged, way. The I (heart) SF tote bag is our stylish answer to reuse, recycle, reduce, and reinvent — show your love for your city while keeping it fresh. We're all about beach style: we find ourselves

constantly retreating to the beach for surfing, relaxing, or having good times with friends. Ocean Beach and the Sunset play a big role in our silkscreen designs and live events. The quintessential San Franpsycho girl is every girl who “just wants to have fun.” It took years of research in our labs to figure out that fun is good. We'd like to pass that on.

San Franpsycho, [www.sanfranpsycho.com](http://www.sanfranpsycho.com)

Photos courtesy of Christian Routzen and Annie Woods



# THE CASTRO: SUI GENERIS



**MIGUEL LOPEZ OF SUI GENERIS:**  
This look is all consignment designer pieces — Ferragamo shoes, Helmut Lang pullover, Comme Des Garcons shirt, Dirk Schonberger pants — except the vintage bolo tie from the 1920s. It’s very masculine but the pop of color makes it spring. We usually dress very dark here, from blacks to grays to browns. A little color makes things so much more youthful for the season. Our clientele is open to this. “Sui generis” means

one of a kind in Latin, and our customers are very unique in their own way. We fit in to the Castro well, but it can be touristy and the neighborhood was lacking a store that defined a sense of the people who really live here. People are always coming and going in San Francisco. But when you like it here, you can make it your own.

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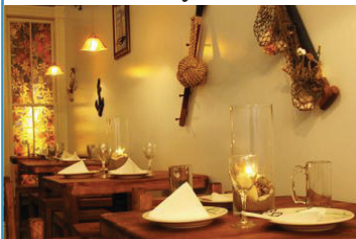


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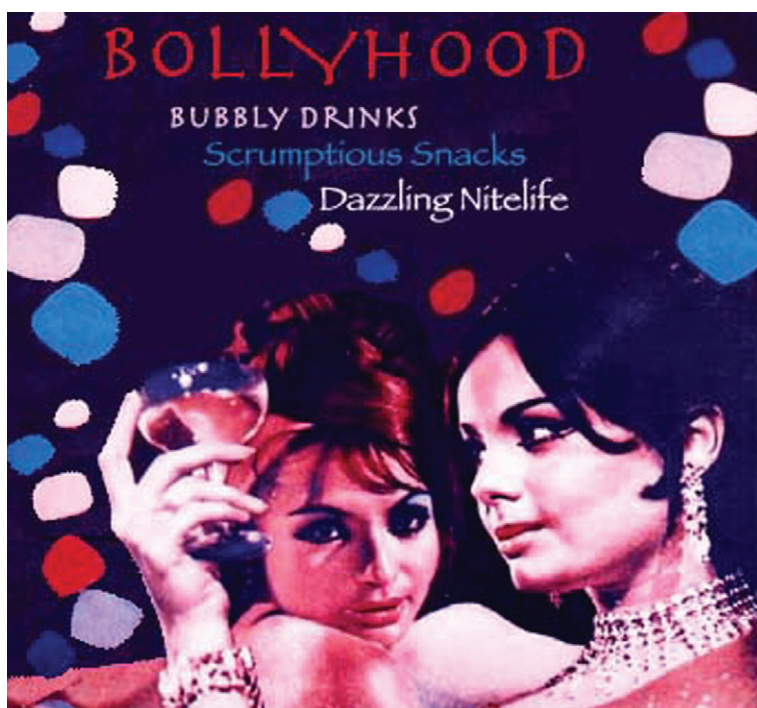
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# REFRESH YOUR ACQUAINTANCE

*Classic bars are all the rage*

By Caitlin Donohue • Photo by Rory McNamara



You're not always looking for the hottest new joint. Sometimes you want to sink into a bar where the ambience is provided as much by the ghosts of those that came before as the person you raise your glass with. Time tested, you dig? Luckily, this is a town where the history runs thicker than the taste of Jagermeister on cottonmouth.

## PIED PIPER BAR AND MAXFIELD'S

Sitting in this corner of the Palace Hotel, one muses on how many broke souls of days past have likewise hit up this suave bar to breathe in the soothing secondhand smoke of class. The past century must have seen quite a few of them — so sip from the Pied's 100th anniversary drink menu (inspired by famous hotel guests from Charlie Chaplin to the "Lady in Red" ghost) and try to look as respectable as your surroundings.

2 New Montgomery, SF. (415) 512-1111

## VESUVIO

Vesuvio's proprietors don't let you forget for a second that Jack Kerouac himself stood up Henry Miller after a few too many in one of its comfy booths, across the alley from City Lights Bookstore. But there are worse places to lose an afternoon than SF's Beat mecca. Live it up, and give some finger snaps with "the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved."

255 Columbus, SF. (415) 362-3370, www.vesuvio.com

## LITTLE SHAMROCK

It don't matter what century it is, the Irish need a drink. Little Shamrock's been happy to oblige for over 100 years as the Sunset District's stalwart Paddy pub. Constructed to provide refreshment for the construction workers who built the California Mid-Winter Exposition of 1893 in Golden Gate Park, it's always provided comfort from the chill. There's nothing like an Irish coffee to take the edge off the fog rolling in.

807 Lincoln, SF. (415) 661-0060

## ELIXIR

There's never been anything but a bar built on the corner of 16th and Guerrero streets. Well, that's not true: the address has also passed time as a club popular with tranny Latinos during the 1980s and a "soft drink parlor" during Prohibition. But the fact remains that punters of some persuasion have been flocking to this Mission District

spot since there's been a Mission District — and Elixir's current incarnation, restored to its Victorian era wooden-bar glory, makes it a pleasant spot to participate, tipsily, in the march of time.

3200 16th St., SF. (415) 522-1633. www.elixirsf.com

## SPECS' TWELVE ADLER MUSEUM CAFE

First, the bad news. The staircase connecting Specs to the Garden of Eden, the strip club upstairs, has been closed due to an overload of debauchery. The bohemian vibe abides, however, at this tucked away North Beach dive, where, since 1968, sailors, strippers, and tourists alike have drunk their foggy-day blues away beneath the wall display of walrus genitalia.

12 William Saroyan, SF. (415) 421-4112

## GINO & CARLO COCKTAIL LOUNGE

Remember when North Beach was an actual Italian neighborhood? Odds are you need a reminder, and Gino and Carlo are just the guys for it. Hit up the dark bar for a game of billiards and stories about the old days at this family run spot.

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## THE CLAMHOUSE

Besides being Guardian publisher Bruce Brugmann's go-to for fried calamari and dry martinis, the Clamhouse's other distinction is having held down its corner in the industrial realms of the Bayview District for the past 149 years. No surprise that it has the cioppino and frosty pint game figured out. And after pulling up a metal stool below the assorted wall knick-knackery, you'll realize that now you've got it nailed, too.

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## WILD SIDE WEST

Despite the neighbors' initial frosty welcome — which involved a bullet through this dive's windows days after it's opening in 1977 — the past 30 years have seen dyke-friendly Wild Side West become a kitschy mainstay in Bernal Heights. Legendarily rambunctious owner Pat Ramseyer recently passed on to that barstool in the sky, but we hope her lush, sunny patio and cheap beer will carry on the groundbreaking WSW legacy for years to come.

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# Jazz Mafia keeps it in the family

By **Lilan Kane**

Photography by **Matthew Reamer**

Location: **Coda**

Hair and Makeup by **Debra Gilbert**

Jazz in its most fashionable and handsome form found itself around a table at Coda recently. I had the pleasure of meeting with dapper Jazz Mafia members Adam Theis, Joe Bagale, and Dublin to gain some insight into their music and experiences as members of one of the Bay's most youthful jazz ensembles. The Mafia ([www.jazzmafia.com](http://www.jazzmafia.com)), as one might expect, is a collective that incorporates several smaller groups containing dozens of members into a large and tuneful family. The first of these groups, Realistic Orchestra, was established about 10 years ago when various jazz forces of the Bay Area started to intertwine and jam together. (Other branches of the family include Brass Mafia, Spaceheater, and the Shotgun Wedding Quintet.)

Main Mafia figures Theis (trombonist, arranger, and bandleader) and Dublin (emcee, vocalist, rapper) are still at the forefront of Realistic Orchestra. They've held a Tuesday night residency at Coda for several years, rotating various Jazz Mafia acts. The night I interviewed them, singer and multi-instrumentalist Joe Bagale was taking the stage, with Theis manning the bass.

Before moving to the elegantly appointed Coda, the Mafia had a raucous six-year run at Bruno's, racking up several awards and introducing jazz to a new generation of night-lifers. The sharpshooters have played with Lyrics Born, Santana, Bobby McFerrin, Sly and the Family Stone drummer Gregg Errico, and many more. A highlight: recently Joe was closing a Saturday night show with Donny Hathaway's version of John Lennon's song "Jealous Guy." He was lost in the moment of it with his eyes closed and his heart pouring out into the microphone. He opened his eyes to find Stevie Wonder in front of him. Wonder got onstage and the band prompted him to revisit an old B-side cut, "All Day Sucker." Suffice to say, the house was rocked and shocked.

But Mafia members' interests aren't limited to revamping standards with star power. In 2008, Theis won the prestigious Gerbode-Hewlett Foundation's Emerging Composers Grant, which he used to fund his latest project, "Brass Bows and Beats," a 50-minute innovative suite with strings, vocals, horns, a DJ, and even a didgeridoo. When Theis took the group to the Playboy Jazz Festival last year, host Bill Cosby called Bagale to the stage, facetiously suggested that the variety of genres in the piece would sound like skimming through all the channels of satellite radio really fast. Admittedly, this concept — infusing hip-hop, jazz, classical, soul, electronic, and more — is ambitious. But Brass Bows and Beats debuted with a sold-out performance at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco

last April and was deemed an artistic success. (Theis will also be jazzing up the San Francisco Symphony's performance of Shostakovich's Symphony 8 in April.)

Dublin, the MC of the group, adds a hip-hop element to the mix — and a connection to younger fans. He recently paired with producer Elon to release a solo record, *Ease The Pain* (Jazz Mafia Recordings), featuring singers Emily Schmidt and Forrest Day. And Bagale, although able to call up the deepest soul and sharpest wit in his vocal stylings, enjoys taking a background role as head vocal arranger. "One of the coolest experiences for me is to be able to write and arrange for other singers and not be the focal point," he said.

About those arrangements — it's in its orchestral distribution of sounds that the Mafia really shines. Its talented members have the capacity hear and highlight a dazzling array of instrumental lines, often numbering up to 45. Then the group's arrangers write them out instrument by instrument, voice by voice, line by line. "To do one three-minute or so tune, I usually put in 50 to 100 hours," Theis said.

In an attempt to reach more young jazz enthusiasts, the Mafia is planning a summer tour across Canada, New York, and New England, the first major tour it has undertaken. These young men and women are trying to expand the palette of the live scene, one arrangement at a time. **SFBG**

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PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: JOE BAGALE, KARYN PAIGE, ADAM THEIS, AIMA THE DREAMER, JEANNE GEIGER, DUBLIN

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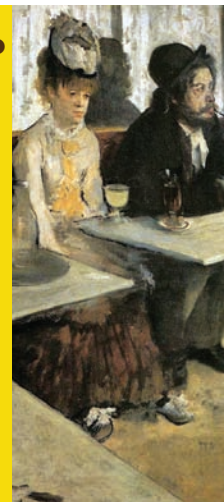
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## Roll to a freshie

*New bars rev up the scene*

By Caitlin Donohue • Photo by Chryssy Lyn

There's something about that "fresh off the assembly line" smell, the crisp new upholstery, gassing up for the first time — oh hold up, you want to know about new bars? My bad. I'm still going to run with that extended car metaphor, though. (Apologies). You'd risk a speeding ticket hitting up all latest models of San Francisco's nightlife that have opened up in the last year. Despite an economy that may or may not be totaled, brave entrepreneurs keep revving up with shiny new rigs — and a lucky few are seeing high-octane results. After all, we don't stop refueling in tougher times — bars and clubs keep many of us from breaking down. Here's a list of SF's new libatory hot rods. And may your road from happy hour to last call be a smooth one, whether you're looking for ample parking or a bumper-brushing rush hour.

### ★ BLACKBIRD ★

Beautiful drink list, beautiful lighting, beautiful people — this Castro District spot has quickly established itself as an attractive yet comfortable place to knock back a few. Plus, its appeal is all-inclusive, drawing straights, gays, sustainable-wine sippers, cocktailers ... even those who just want to their happy-hour way down an extensive lineup of drafts.

2124 Market, SF. (415) 503-0360, [www.blackbirdbar.com](http://www.blackbirdbar.com)

### ★ BLOODHOUND ★

Have you been on the hunt for a laid-back bar in SoMa? Follow the scent to Bloodhound. In a neighborhood better known for blasting bass and high-maintenance crowds, this bar's wood paneling and antler chandeliers are more lodge than logjam. Kick back with a nice trophy beer and hearken to a soundtrack that features tunes from Nancy Sinatra and Lee Hazlewood to the Black Keys.

1145 Folsom, SF. (415) 863-2840, [www.bloodhoundsf.com](http://www.bloodhoundsf.com)

### ★ SOM ★

With one of the snazziest dance floors and clientele in the Mission, SOM has established itself with a diverse crowd and inspired playlists. Check out its Wednesday night Yoruba Dance Sessions party for what you've been missing in terms of worldwide soulful beats. And for

the nic heads, Som's got a fab fenced outdoor smoking lounge, perfect for watching the 16th Street people parade pass you by.

2925 16th St., SF. (415) 558-8521, [www.som-bar.com](http://www.som-bar.com)

### ★ 222 HYDE ★

You don't go to 222 Hyde to stretch out. But the scant elbow room in this skinny slice of bar space means you may be rubbing up against your new best friend. Seal the deal by suggesting a trip down to the basement, where you can take advantage of the internationally renowned and homegrown record-shuffling talent that blows the roof off most days of the week.

222 Hyde, SF. (415) 345-8222, [www.222hyde.com](http://www.222hyde.com)

### ★ TRIGGER ★

What, your gay bar doesn't have a cage dancer? Take aim, pull that Trigger and consider the oversight righted. This multilevel, relatively upscale Castro District club seems to prioritize fancy design details and couch space over spacious dance floors. But really, isn't it classier to sway seductively than bust out that space eating jig? Leave that to the go-go. You just focus on that drink.

2344 Market, SF. (415) 551-CLUB, [www.clubtrigger.com](http://www.clubtrigger.com)

### ★ SMUGGLER'S COVE ★

It's a simple fact: umbrella drinks make the world better. And this Hayes Valley spot is fighting the good fight for rum and juice. Prove yourself worthy and join its Manifest, an honor reserved for those who have drunk their way through the Cove's 70-plus cocktails, inspired by the libations of old Havana.

650 Gough, SF. (415) 869-1900, [www.smugglerscovesf.com](http://www.smugglerscovesf.com)

### ★ FAT ANGEL ★

Leather armchairs, stamped tin ceilings, and marble bartops make this Fillmore District wine bar a pleasant place to spend an evening. Which is a good thing, because you'll need some time to thoroughly enjoy its master-crafted arsenal of local and exotic beers and vino. Even more if you delve into the food menu: an entire section dedicated to butters? Oof, good luck with that whole leaving thing.

1740 O'Farrell, SF. (415) 525-3013, [www.fatangelsf.com](http://www.fatangelsf.com) **SFBG**

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# THE 8TH ANNUAL BEST BARTENDER IN THE BAY WINNERS!



## CRAZIEST BARTENDER (AKA "THE GODFREY"\*)

**LEE PARMELEE** at **DIRTY TRIX, 408 Clement St**  
She's so craazzy! Dirty Trix is the home of cheap drinks and cheaper thrills. Lee considers herself part of the latter category, a claim supported by her outlandish drink specials like 'Chase your crack with an old chub, a double-fist special involving Crackin Rum & Old Chub. There's also regular wacky events like Wii Weenie Wednesday and Trailer Trash Sunday Brunch. She believes fun should be free and sometimes her drinks are too! Now that's crazy!



## BARTENDER WITH THE BEST COCKTAIL **BRIAN FELLE** for 'WAKE UP CALL' at **GARCON BISTRO, 1101 Valencia St**

Expecting a cocktail that was as abrasive as my alarm clock, I was happily surprised that The Wake Up Call is a harmonious blend of cucumber, lime, and Chartreuse. Brian believes a good cocktail has balance and The Wake Up Call definitely has it. This cocktail offers a jolt to patrons, letting them know that a visit to Garcon doesn't have to be just for great food, but for great cocktails too.



## BEST BARTENDER TO CONFESS YOUR SINS TO (BEST SHRINK)

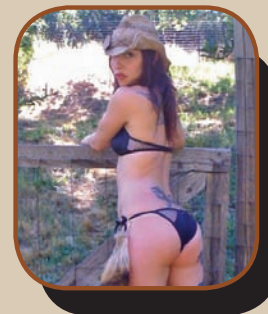
**CARRIE HOURIHAN** at **DOC'S CLOCK, 2575 Mission St**

Carrie likes to liquor em up and let them rant. But don't go crying to her if you're looking for a yes (wo)man. She lost whatever (if any) ability she had to sugarcoat advice years ago! The most extreme therapy session involved a Swede that was cutting his hair off with a pocket knife in the bar. What?? Naturally, because of patient/client privileges, she can't say any more. Her advice to our readers: Don't order Mojitos or Diet Tonic. And tip well.



## FUNNIEST BARTENDER

**MICHAEL BROWN** at **THE CINCH, 1723 Polk St**  
Goofy, wacky, kooky, animated, hyperactive, quirky, off beat, or just plain funny. No matter how you cut it, Michael will tickle that funny bone. He's been making customers laugh for 15 years now! Be sure to catch his act each week at The Cinch.



## SEXIEST FEMALE BARTENDER

**ALISON COOK** at **TEMPLE, 540 Howard St**

**and CHUPA MATTESON** at **BENDERS BAR & GRILL, 806 S Van Ness Ave**

There were so many votes for both of these ladies that we had to call it a tie. And hello!! Rightfully so. They are H-O-T hot! Both of these sexy mamas are in school for healthcare. Alison is studying physical therapy and Chupa is in nursing school. Salud (health) to you both!



## SEXIEST MALE BARTENDER

**DANNY STARLING** at **DNA LOUNGE, 375 11th St**

When asked what Danny thinks is sexy, I swear he said "ass" but apparently he said "pass." For someone that doesn't wear much to work and took a naked money shot, apparently he's a little shy. Yoga instructor by day and bartender by night, sometimes both worlds collide at the bar when Danny's pouring drinks. Hot!



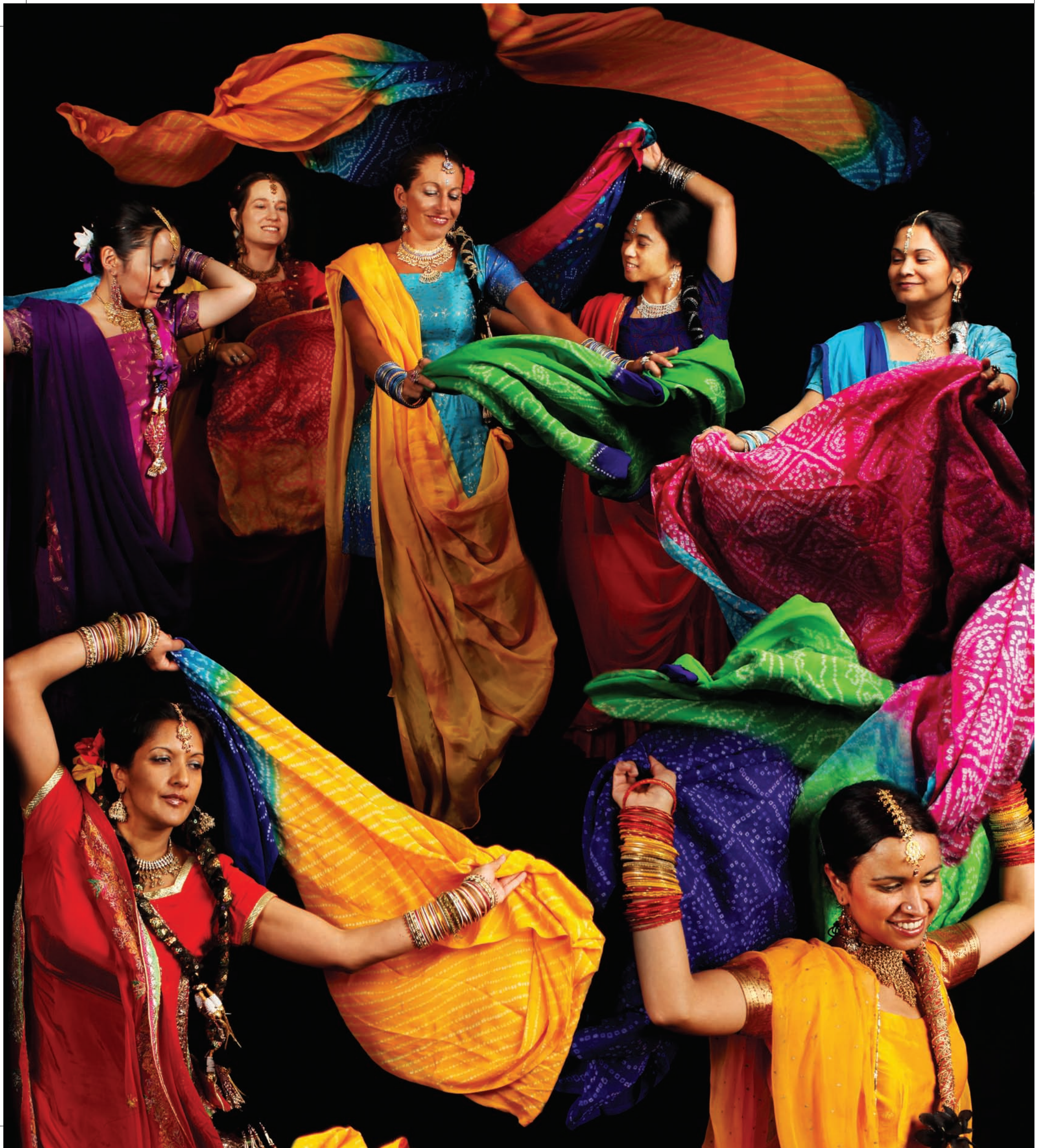
## CRANKIEST BARTENDER

**THE ENTIRE STAFF** at **540 CLUB, 540 Clement St**

All for one and one for all, the entire staff of the 540 Club is awarded the Crankiest Bartender Award! Tread lightly when approaching these easily irritated and always annoyed bartenders. They may be smiling, attentive, giving you great service, and sincerely happy-but don't let that fool you!

\*NAMED AFTER OUR FIRST BARTENDER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE, THREE-TIME WINNER MEREITH GODFREY OF THE HORSESHOE TAVERN.









# NONSTOP BHANGRA BRINGS THE DANCE

INTERVIEW BY CAITLIN DONOHUE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SPENCER HANSEN

You've always been the, shall we say, *expressive* one in your group. Eye-fluttering comes naturally to you. Your hands have been known to fly to your face at the slightest appearance of everyday anguish. You enjoy flouncing. So go east, young thang — straight to dramatic Bollywood. Can't quite swing the flight to Mumbai? You're in luck, because since 2004, Vicki Virk and Suman Raj of the dhol-rhythms dance troupe, along with DJ Jimmy Love and others, have been holding monthly club nights that turn the Rickshaw Stop into handclapping, bangle-clanging, whirling celebrations of bhangra, the dance music that drives Indian cinema. They spend the night's first hour schooling audiences to bhangra basics, leaving each diva free to bob and spin for the rest of the night to the tunes of an ever more impressive lineup of dub, hip-hop, and electronica DJs and musicians. We caught up with Virk to chat about how she's made this unconventional club night a multicultural institution in the Bay for the past six years.

**SFBG** *How did you first come into contact with bhangra music?*

**VICKI VIRK** I grew up in Punjab, India, and moved to the United States when I was around 12. My family's culture has always involved bhangra music. Suman learned about Punjabi culture when she married my cousin and we became close soon after. We talked a bunch about doing something that was community-oriented, would bring a lot of people together, and was positive.

NonStop Bhangra all started accidentally — I never thought this is what I'd be doing! We started off by hosting a free dance class. I started dating DJ Jimmy Love, and when we wanted to celebrate our class anniversary, he suggested we host a party where all our students could practice their dance. We invited our family and friends and people really loved it, so we did another show a couple of months later. Then we approached the Rickshaw Stop, and it just turned into what it is now. It's grown so much. We're hosting our 65th party this month.

**SFBG** *Has the night's experience evolved since those beginnings as a bhangra showcase?*

**VV** It has changed a lot, but the base of it has stayed the same. We now have a live element: hip hop and electronica DJs and drummers, and we've added lights. It's a ritual now. We open the doors at nine, start the lesson, and the whole audience does it together. It's better than a regular club night because participants get to learn it, watch it, and then do it. Bhangra's easier to learn and has a happier vibe than other types of dancing. All kinds of people can dance to it regardless of ethnicity. Most of our crew is not Indian — we have white people, Koreans, Filipinos. The audience sees an eclectic group onstage and it reminds them that music is universal and full of passion.

**SFBG** *How do the other genres mix with the bhangra sound?*

**VV** Bhangra has a heavy bass, a four-four drum beat. It's a really down-to-earth kind of music, and if you have good DJs, it goes really well with hip-hop and reggae. I explain it to people as the hip-hop of India. It's what plays in all the clubs there regardless of the region.

**SFBG** *Are people from India surprised to see bhangra performed in this all-inclusive way?*

**VV** We did a show in front of the Contemporary Jewish Museum when one of our MC's cousins was visiting from India — and the cousin was shocked at the diverse crowd. He was taking pictures, calling his friends back home. Bhangra is such a cultural dance. It hasn't been taught that often outside the Punjabi community. And sometimes that community is concerned about the shows, they think maybe bhangra will be taken advantage of. But then they learn about what we are doing, and they love it. Now people bring their parents. We'll have an older woman dancing next to a hipster kid! **SFBG**

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**AVANT GARDE SUPPERCHIC**

### OTTER POPS

Gays: they are animals. Yet they're so full of benefits. Combine your love of skinny, hairy queers with your yearning for philanthropy at this fuzzy shindig. Lightly furred cuties take the stage for a "Hot Otter Contest" (hopefully manscape-free), while \$10 beer bust proceeds go to benefit the Marine Mammal Center. Purposes for porpoises? Positively.

March 27, 9 p.m., free. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison, SF  
www.lonestarsaloon.com

### STARGATE

If you haven't checked out Temple's sci-fi warper "Stargate-Portal Room" designed by artist Xavi, then this hyperdimensional celebration is calling out to you across the galaxy. Get alien with tech-breaks, acid crunk psych-heroes an-ten-nae, Deru, Lotus Drops, Phalanx, Drag'nfly, and dozens others.

March 28, 10 p.m., \$5. Temple, 540 Howard, SF. www.templestf.com

### TIEFSCHWARTZ

Avant-techno is not, repeat, not dead. Especially if spiked with the shots of wet humor and sly effects that German brothers Tiefschwartz bring (anyone who drops the Vincent Price's "lost" verses from "Thriller" into their mixes wins our zombie hearts.) There'll be some sexy house in there, as well. Hometown fave Nikola Baytala warms up.

April 3, 10 p.m., \$12 advance. Mighty, 119 Utah, SF. www.mighty119.com

### AVANT GARDE SUPPERCHIC

Models — they eat! Work the runway at this "interactive fashion event" with hair and makeup demos, modeling tips, a fashion shoot, slinky tunes, and a catwalk show. Plus, a multicourse meal for those hungry for fame. Chef Daan Jetten supplies the surprise nibbles, IIMUAHII showcases the cutting-edge couture, and you bring the fabness.

April 6, 6 p.m., \$35. Supperclub, 657 Harrison, SF. www.supperclub.com

### HOUSE ARREST

Acid time! Pitch-perfect and wobbly early Chicago house sound revivalists Azari & III are coming to Mezzanine with old-school lovin' DJs Ken Vulsion, Jenö, Solar, Conor, Derek Love, and Black Shag for a night of neon smiley faces and tweeter-tweaking mechano-soul. It'll be the essence of fluorescence.

April 9, 10 p.m., \$7 advance. Mezzanine, 444 Jessie, SF. www.mezzaninesf.com

### MAX VANGELI

Is there nothing Sweden can't make catchier? Local progressive house and pop trance up-and-comer Max Vangeli (he's been around for a while, but he got a whole lot bigger last year) scored a huge hit with the lovely "Swedish Beauty" and collaborates with Sweden's AN21. But his sweet style — giving a disco-like sheen to pounding tunes — is all his own.

April 10, 10 p.m., \$20. 1015 Folsom. www.1015.com **SFBG**



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